Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council presents Halloween Party at the Hyde and the Ever-Scary Haunted House

by Amy Mazur – Chair of the Halloween Party with photos by Patty Kellogg

Each year, the Newton Highlands Neighborhood Area Council arranges "Halloween at the Hyde." Another successful Halloween Party at the Hyde Community Center occurred this year on Sunday, October 27, 2002. Throngs of children, ages 0-8, attended the party and took part in the various activities that were organized to offer a little something for everyone. There was a Donut Chew game, in which the children grabbed at doughnuts using only their teeth, a Face Painter, who created decorative designs on the children's faces with a Halloween theme, and a Sack-Making table where everyone could create their very own Trick or Treat bag. Also available were the ever-popular Ghost Bowling, Eyeball Toss, and Catch The Creatures (otherwise known as Pin the Tail on the Donkey). And we can't forget the Mini Haunted House, where any daring participant could reach their hand into the house and feel Monster Guts and Bat Brains. Goblin Goodies were available to please the palate of even the scariest of creatures in attendance, and the costumes ranged from Angels to Zombies.





After the program designed for the younger kids, the older kids had a chance to be scared to death in the Haunted House. All sorts and kinds of scary goblins, creatures, and frightening objects were on display! A live cast of demons was available to curdle the blood of all the young-uns. Of course, some of the more cautious children, hearing the shrieks of horror emanating from within, stopped right at the front door without going inside!! Many others emerged from their haunting experiences pallid and ashen-faced. Fortunately, much good cheer was present outside, so everyone quickly regained their composure and went happily to their homes.







A tradition in the Highlands for many years now, the Halloween Party at the Hyde and its sister-event, the Haunted House, is sponsored by the Newton Highlands Area Council, with help from individual donations. The success of this party would be impossible without the tremendous help and support of many community volunteers. Below are some of the folks who helped out. Apologies to those we inadvertently omitted from the list. Come back next year and remind us to add your name!

Patty Kellogg - Hyde Community Center Grande Dame
Cary Fitzgerald and Kevin Duff - Parade of Horribles Leaders
Gail Terman - Face Painter
Diane Shuster - Doughnut Stringer Extraordinaire
Melanie Fineman & Jessica Duff - Donut Chew Champions
Stephanie Hessler with Tommy and Jack - Mini Haunted House Helpers
Laura Fizek with Michael and Jared - Eyeball Toss and Donut Chew Experts
Kara Poirer with Kiley and Brian - Goblin Goodie Host and Hostesses
Katherine and Ken Anderson - Ghost Bowling Gurus
Maya Mierav - Catch The Creatures Queen
Elizabeth Smith - Eyeball Toss Talent
Doug Smith, John Rice, and their many elves - Haunted House Assemblers

Along with the help of:

Lillian Astrachan Meg Hollander Sue Baer Joanne Hooker Kathryn Denitto Cynthia Mantei Amy Green Mara Nislick



And all those who donated Goblin Goodies - YUM!